

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 AID-05 IO-13 EB-07
COME-00 TRSE-00 /094 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:JRRATIGAN:SAC
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NEA/IAI:WSMITH (SUB)
EUR/P:FSEIDNER

-----070020Z 097550 /61

O 062346Z JAN 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 003123

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, TU, GR, IS

SU0J: POSSIBLE GREEK AND/OR TURKISH PURCHASES OF
MILITARY EQUIPMENT FROM ISRAEL

1. CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR OF JANUARY 6 CARRIED STORY
BY JOHN COOLEY FROM ATHENS WHICH READ IN PART QUOTE:
GREEK DEFENSE MINISTER EVANGELOS AVEROFF CONFIRMED TO
THIS REPORTER THAT GREECE HAD MADE "LIMITED" PURCHASES
FROM ISRAEL OF US ELECTRICAL GEAR IT NEEDS, AND COULD
NOT GET FROM THE UNITED STATES. GREECE'S NEIGHBOR AND
AEGEAN SEA RIVAL, TURKEY, IS UNDERSTOOD TO BE BUYING
SIMILAR EQUIPMENT FROM ISRAEL. END QUOTE

--THE ARTICLE WENT ON TO SAY THAT GREECE SOUGHT TO EQUIP
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OVER 100 OF ITS F-104G'S, F-4E'S, F-4E'S, AND A-7'S WITH
ECM GEAR LAST SUMMER, BUT THAT DOD HELD UP APPROVAL BECAUSE
QUOTE: GREECE AND TURKEY BOTH IDENTIFIED THEIR MAIN
ADVERSARY NOT AS THE SOVIET UNION BUT EACH OTHER. END
QUOTE.

--ARTICLE NAMES LUNDY ELECTRONICS & SYSTEMS, ITT AVIONICS,

AND SANDERS ASSOCIATES AS COMPANIES WHICH WERE DENIED LICENSES. (ARTICLE BEING CARRIED IN WIRELESS FILE.)

2. FOLLOWING EXCHANGE OCCURRED AT NOON PRESS BRIEFING, JANUARY 6:

--Q: BOB, WHEN YOU CHECK INTO THIS GREEK QUESTION, SPECIFICALLY, AT LEAST FOR MY PURPOSES, THE GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER IS QUOTED --

--A: DEFENSE MINISTER, I BELIEVE.

--Q: DEFENSE MINISTER -- IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT ISRAEL HAS SOLD THEM EQUIPMENT, APPARENTLY MILITARY, AMERICAN MILITARY EQUIPMENT PREVIOUSLY OBTAINED BY GREECE, THAT THE UNITED STATES NOW REFUSES TO SELL TO GREECE. SO, I WANT, MYSELF, TO HAVE A SPECIFIC COMMENT ON THAT IF YOU CAN GET ONE.

--A: ON THE GENERAL QUESTION OF GREECE, WE HAVE AN ONGOING MILITARY RELATIONSHIP WITH GREECE, WE HAVE APPROVED LICENSES AND WE HAVE, I AM SURE, DENIED SOME LICENSES.

--Q: I UNDERSTAND, BUT I SAY THE GREEK DEFENSE MINISTER NOW SAYS HE IS HAVING TO GO TO ISRAEL.

-A: HE IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT AND THAT IS WHAT WE ARE CHECKING INTO.

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3. ARTICLE'S MAIN FOCUS IS ON ALLEGED THIRD-COUNTRY TRANSFERS BY ISRAEL. SPOKESMAN FUNSETH SAID DEPARTMENT "CHECKING INTO" THE REPORTED SALES TO GREECE IN "DISCUSSIONS IN DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS" WITH THE ISRAELIS.

4. DEPARTMENT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ANY INFORMATION OR VIEWS EMBASSIES ATHENS AND ANKARA MAY HAVE ON THESE ALLEGATIONS.

KISSINGER

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